



AUSTIN WATER ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT VARIANCE INSTRUCTIONS

Variances to watering restrictions for commercial and residential properties may be granted in accordance with City Code, Section 6-4-30 (Water Conservation). The director may grant a variance to Section 6-4-15 (Conservation Stage Regulations), Section 6-4-16 (Drought Response Stage One Regulations), Section 6-4-17 (Drought Response Stage 2 Regulations), Section 6-4-18 (Drought Response Stage 3 Regulations), or Section 6-4-19 (Emergency Stage Four Regulations) if the director determines that the applicant has submitted an environmental impact study, hydrological analysis, and additional data or documentation as required.

Applicants must establish that the specific variance requested is necessary to avoid or mitigate a significant adverse impact on an endangered or listed protected plant, animal, or aquatic species or critical environmental feature present on the property or to maintain the traditional and natural character of a critical environmental feature.

Please Note:

- **Compliance with the water use regulations contained in Austin City Code Chapter 6-4, Water Conservation is required until specific approval is granted by the Water Conservation Division of Austin Water.**
- **An application for a variance does not provide reliance that the variance as requested will be approved.**
- **All variances are decided on a case-by-case basis**

Compliance:

Throughout the life of the variance, the Water Service Account Holder is presumed to be responsible for compliance with all the provisions of the Chapter 6-4, Water Conservation. This will include but is not limited to the following:

A person may not fail to repair a controllable leak including:

- a broken sprinkler head, leaking or broken pipes or a leaking faucet; or

A person may not operate a permanently installed irrigation system with

- a broken head
- a head that is out of adjustment and the arc of the spray head is over a street, parking area, or other impervious surface
- a head that is misting because of high water pressure; or

A person may not allow water flow during irrigation that:

- allows water to run, flow, stream in a way that extends into a street, parking area, or other impervious surface for a distance of 50 feet or greater; or
- allows water to pond to a depth of greater than 0.25 inch in a street, parking area or on other impervious surfaces.

☐ Other



Briefly describe why a variance is being requested:

WATER SERVICE ACCOUNT HOLDER SIGNATURE:

By signing my name below, I acknowledge that the above information is true and correct and that all attachments are made part of this variance request and any subsequent approvals. I further understand the watering restrictions imposed by this variance and that irrigation pursuant to this variance does not exempt the applicant or the property owner/manager from complying with the provisions of Austin City Code, Chapter 6-4 Water Conservation.

Signature: _____

Title: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

Upon completion, Email, Fax or Mail to:

AWU Water Conservation,
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, TX 78767

or FAX to (512) 974-3504

or Email to waterusecompvar@austintexas.gov

Austin Water staff will contact you within ten (10) business days of receipt of the completed application.

Suspension or Revocation of a Variance - Section 6-4-30 (K)

A variance following its approval by the director may be immediately suspended or revoked by Austin Water Utility if the director or director's designee determines any of the following: a violation of the terms of the variance occurs at the location during the effective period of the variance, the application submitted to the director upon which the variance approval was based included false, misleading, incomplete, or inaccurate information or attachments, the director declares an emergency recall of variances to control use or preserve supply based on protracted drought, unusual operational event, or other public necessity.

AWU Use Only

Approved ☐

Initial Site Inspection Date: _____

Denied ☐

_____/_____
(AWU staff) (Date)